economic interests which found expression in the enthusiasm of bu3iness politicians for a commercial *Machtpolitik.* The youthful Commonwealth, a rival of Holland " for the fairest mistress in the world trade/'" was not two years old when it made its own essay in economic imperialism. " A bare-faced war " for commerce, got up by the Royal African Company, was Clarendon's verdict[81] on the Dutch war of 1665-7. Five years later, Shaftesbury hounded the City against Holland with the cry of *Delenda est Carthago.*

The war finance of the Protectorate had made it neces-sary for Cromwell to court Dutch and Jewish, as well as native, capitalists, and the impecunious Government of the Restoration was in the hands of those syndicates of goldsmiths, whose rapacity the Chancellor, a survivor from the age before the deluge, when aristocrats still despised the upstart plutocracy, found not a little disgusting.[98]

The contemporary progress of economic thought fortified no less the mood which glorified the economic virtues. Economic science developed in England, not, - as in Germany, as the handmaid of public adminis-tration, nor, as in France, through the speculations of philosophers and men of letters, but as the inter-preter of the practical interests of the City. With the exception of Petty and Locke, its most eminent

practitioners were business men, and the questions which excited them were those, neither of production nor of social organization, but of commerce and finance—the balance of trade, tariffs, interest, currency and credit.

The rise of Political Arithmetic after the Restoration, profoundly influenced, as it was, by the Cartesian philosophy and by the progress of natural science, stamped their spontaneous and doctrineless individualism with the seal of theoretical orthodoxy. " Knowledge," wrote the author of the. preface to a work by one of the most eminent exponents of the new science, " in great measure is become mechanical." [M] The exact